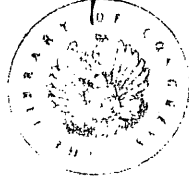


Diary of Daniel Coker,
April 21 - Sept. 21, 1821



This diary was found among volumes transferred from the third floor of the Manuscript Division to Desk 39, December, 1929.

Though the name of the author is not contained in the diary, investigation has shown that it was written by Daniel Coker, Methodist missionary at Fourah Bay, near Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa.

For evidence of authorship, see Diary of Christian Wiltberger, July 28, 1821, relating to death of J. R. Andrus, and the same, May 21, 1821, relating to Coker's account of statement which he made to Fenchard about natives.

See also: The African Repository, Vol. 1, p. 9; R. R. Gurley's Life of Jerhudi Ashmun, ch. 6, pp. 104-116; Ashmun's Memoir of the Life and Character of the Rev. Samuel Bacon, A. M., pp. 253 and 288; American Colonization Society Papers in the Manuscript Division, L.C., Board of Managers A.C.S. Vol. 1 From March 14, 1817, to October 15, 1820. and Amer. Col. Society Vol. 1 Liber. W. G. D. W. (containing fifth annual report, p. 178.

Rev. Daniel Coker,

Diary

April 21, 1821 - Sept. 21, 1821

(41 pages)



Starak Bay - April 21st 1821

Saturday

This day the brig "Huntress" sailed from this
 bound to Norfolk commanded by Captain Blane.
 I believe that all our people felt deeply
 interested in her safe return to America. A
 great number of letters were forwarded by this
 opportunity to different parts of the U. S.
 I trust this great cause is in the hands of the
 same Good God that hath preserved and sup-
 ported this in this far. "Of this work be of God it
 will stand" O my soul trust thou still in
 the living God. My soul never is thou take
 thy cause out of his hands. It is he that hath
 sustained thee in the hour of trial when thou
 appeared to be no human help at hand.

"Never will I remove

Out of thy hand my cause."

But rest in thy evermore love
 his hands upon thy life."

Starak Bay April 23rd Sunday

This day we had a worship twice a day,
 and it was a comfortable time. A consider-
 able number attended from the town.
 I would fain hope that union among the
 people may be lasting.

Starak Bay April 24th Monday

This day I felt my mind turned towards former
 days. And former men I felt a comparing
 my life with that of George Fox, Richard
 Baxter, the pious George Hitchcock, Mrs
 Row & others I sink in my own estimation
 and am ready to exclaim, My weakness, my weakness.

Copy sent for rather to my God / why am I so
lame & barren? I feel a stronger desire to
live, and feel what I think they lived and
enjoyed.

page 2 "That blessed law of Thine
Jesus to me impart
The spirit's law of life divine
O implant in my heart
Implant it deep within
Where it may ne. ev. remove
The law of Liberty from sin
The perfect law of Love &c

Wesley

Fort Bay April 26th Wednesday

Last evening I was very unwell but
more better to day. I think it most likely
that my Heavenly Father intends to keep
me / apparently / near the Bank of the Grave,
thence to stir me up to walk near to him.
When I am favoured to view it in this
light, I feel a heart to praise him, the
sudden pains I feel passing through my
earthly house of clay proclaim to me that
the materials are decaying, and that seems
to urge me to examine my hopes as to that
house built without hands eternally in the
Heavens.

Fort Bay April 28th Friday

This day we were made glad at the
return of Mr C Bacon & the Rev Mr M
who went down to explore the coast. They return
in unexpected good health - They visited Cape
Mendocino and the Grand Rapids - They
obtained the Grant of land - they draw nothing

When ever the Christian uses this word (chance) they mean or should mean that we did not know that such a thing would happen or that we did not intend by doing acts of ours, to produce such an effect. Chambers explains it thus: "A painter

4
He unable to caper the frame at the
mouth of a house he had painted threw
his sponge in despair at the piece, and
by chance did that which he could
not before by design," see Buck's Doc't
on Chance. Should I am, b. & c. be offered in
favour of chance. I can only say that Dr.
Clark's ~~Reflections~~ on the ~~preference~~ ~~striking~~ ~~very~~
mind. The Dr. observes that the word
signifies an event that naturally arises
from ~~such~~ ~~concurring~~ causes as, in
the order & nature of things must produce
it. Thus a bad state of the atmosphere,
putrid exhalations, bad diet, a occasional
by any general scarcity, might have produced
the disease in question, and to something
of this kind. They would attribute it, if
the other evidence did not occur. This
gives us the proper notion of chance,
and shews us that it is a matter as depend
upon the divine providence, as any thing
can be; in short that these occurrences
are part of the divine government.

I would now observe that when
I attended Dr. Blair's Lecture (which I did
a good little did I think of writing a word
this evening. Who can say but what it was
intended by providence to produce this
very effect viz. the above remarks.

In all my ways they said I owed
my ruling providence I see
that we still my course to run
and still lead my paths to them

Dr. Mr. Green

Thank God My Dear
...
Bacon better to day she is as usual I think it is rather unfortunate that Mrs Bacon is at this time sick at Regent's Town, I hope she will be better in a few days so as to be able to be removed down to her husband, The third ship suspected that called to examine the Schooner thinks it will be necessary to take her up the river about 16 miles to Bangs Island to repair her before she will be fit to go down to Grand Bopra, thus as we have every reason to expect the rains to commence in a few weeks time, it is doubtful with me whether any part of the people will be removed before the next day to our intended settlement. There is one difficulty in the way of our agents I find. viz The getting the people removed that are at Sherbro. But something must be done, and that speedily, as the provision sent them after the arrival of the Brig Nautibus is now nearly exhausted May the Lord direct us ⁱⁿ ~~this~~ ^{important} matter.

Forak Bay May 3 Thursday
No new cases of fever considerable
rain Yesterday I was informed / There
was a nations entertainment given
to the Eskimo Chiefs on Board his
Majesties Brig. Munsieon There was
much balloting on the occasion

The British are engaged in getting influence in Malacca. And it is some considerable pleasure to me to believe that our flag now flies on the beach of that part of St John's River in the grand Bapa Land, where our agents Mr. Andrews have marked out the spot for the erection of the tower. After he agreed for the land they set up our flag, and left it flying. Marcos was I think permitted to see the promised land, but not to enter in. I think it likely that I shall not be permitted to see our expected costly conquer. But this will be of but small moment so that some thousands of African children are safely landed, at this moment my soul rejoices in the hopes of the much greater privilege of entering the Heavenly Conquer.

Farah Bay May 4th Fri
This day we have considerably
decreased our increasing alarm from
increasing sickness. Praise the Lord,
I received the following letter last
evening from the American Consul
at H. Bay.

Sunset Bay May 6 Sat.
 This day was our communion
 day. I spoke from Romans, 11. 3. I felt
 that for a comfortable day. The Rev
 Mr. Andrews gave account of the Anti
 Society of the in of the Episcopal Church.

Being present persuaded him to abstain
from the same occasion. I have him to be present. This
Baptist friend will neither converse
with us or suffer us to commune with
us. Notwithstanding this I hope we shall
get along in harmony. The Episcopalians
or the Methodists may get along very well
together as to communion provided the
latter are not too much prejudiced
against the former. Both they in
fact approach to meet each other. That
I can have no reasonable cause for
disagreement unless one should be to
formal and the other to enthusiastic.
This word in its weak sense it signifies
any impression on the fancy, or agitation
of the passions of which no man can
give no rational account. It sig-
nifies that infatuation of the ~~whole~~ mind
which leads a man to suppose he
has some remarkable intercourse with
the deity, while at the same time it
is nothing more than the effects of
a heated imagination or a sanguine
constitution. If the mind be en-
lightened, if the will which was per-
verse be renovated, detached from
evil and inclined to good; if the
fancy powers be ~~secured~~ raised to ex-
citation for the promotion of divine
glory, and the good of men; if the
animal corruptions of the heart be
~~repressed~~ suppressed by peace and joy

arise from a view of the goodness of
God, attended with a spiritual frame
of mind, a heart devoted to God and
a holy useful life & however this may
be branded with the name of enthusiasm,
it certainly is from God, because our
human efforts, unassisted by him, could
never produce such effects as these,
see Locke, Wesley, Mrs H. More & others
towards forming the character of a
young Princeps.

Friak Bay May 12 Sat

This day Mrs Bacon is much better

Friak Bay May 13. Sat

This day the American Schooner
Albatross from Boston mounting 14
guns & Captain Stockton anchored
in harbor of Freetown. There also a
French Schooner / a cruiser / there
was much saluting on the occasion

Friak Bay May 15 Tuesday

We have been visited at our
temporary residence by Captain Stockton
and some of his officers, they appeared
in words to be zealous in the cause,
this morning they started down the coast
on a cruise, perhaps as far as the Line
on Saturday last a slave vessel was
brought into the harbor of Freetown
having on board 600 And some odd
slaves a prize to the Snapper / an
English cruiser /

Friak Bay May 16 Wednesday

This morning the French

started down the coast. The
surface is more to be desired than
than expected.

Friday May 17th 1850
I think I have a good deal of the
flux. Mrs. Bacon is recovering slowly. My
wife complains to day. But not laid
up. Our son William is recovering
fast. Mr. Daniel has a bad
gathering and his hand. It is thought
this will be no disadvantage to him.

The Lord be praised that it is no worse.

I admire the sentiments of a certain
female "Inaccessibility to eternal
things, in beings who are standing
on the border of eternity is a misfortune."
which would be regarded a prodigy
if it were not so common. It would
be altogether incredible if the number of
instances we have of it were only
related, not witnessed, were only
heard of; not experienced. If we
had a certain prospect of a great
estate, and a splendid mansion
which we knew must be ours in
a few days and not only ours as
a bequest, but an inheritance,
not only as a possession but
a perpetuity if in the mean time
we rented on a precarious lease
a paltry cottage in bad repair,
and ready to fall and which we
must at all events soon be turned
out, depending on the proprietors will

method. The argument might not be
 the most elegant. Would it agree
 wisdom or even common sense
 totally to overlook our recent noble
 exertions and to be so fondly attached
 to our falling testament as to spend
 great part of our time in supporting
 its ruins. By props 11. H. Moor

11. Restore the wanderer and support them
 both by sustaining arms; for strength is there
 And Oh! preserve this tempest beaten bark
 From sinking in the waves whose swelling surge
 threatens to overwhelm. For sake her not. But be
 Her pilot, though no sun, no star appear amid
 The glooms for if a ray from thy all cheering
 Presence to light her ~~own~~ course, she rides the storm
 Secure and in due time will reach her destined
 Port and be at peace?

Harbor Bay, May 21, Mon
 This day we had a small
 paraver. some of my colonized friends
 from Shurbo thought hard of some
 that I had not discriminated between
 and those who had acted improperly they
 grounded their grievance on my com-
 munication to Captain Frenshard. I
 informed them that the statement I
 made to that officer was not in-
 tended to include the whole without
 any exception. But the reason why
 I did not make the distinction was
 that I expected the association agent
 out and thought it most proper
 to make the statement to them

wish they could have an opportunity of speaking for themselves and that this I was ready to do seeing the Rev Mr Andrews the first agent was now on the spot and I was confident that the Board understood it as I had explained. But all this did not satisfy them.

Forak Bay May 23rd 1841

This day there was a fairer called of all the people. / My congregation by the first agent of the Society for the purpose of hearing the charge of the people brought out in the ~~the~~ Nautolus had against him / the Rev Mr Andrews. Many charges were offered. And he answered to them all, I believe to the general satisfaction, but ever to that of those who brought the charges. And the meeting adjourned in apparent peace. When Mr Andrews withdrew into the room of his friend Mr O Brown. I was much affected at his weeping plentifully for joy that God had stood by him. I do believe that that this man loves & fears God, & that his God may support him. He will if he will need much Grace.

Forak Bay May 23rd 1841

This day the Rev Mr Andrews preached at 10 o'clock. His subject was on the return of the prodigal.

But, I have reason to think it was a
very trying day to him. Another meeting being
carried on as he thought in opposition
to him. He is a clergyman of the
Episcopal Church. He delivered the dis-
course in the room of his friend Mr
Bacon / Mrs Bacon being too unwell
to go out / The Room was sufficiently
large to accommodate all the people but
previous to say but few attended. A
Bogtry thou art no friend to religion
or colonizing. I cannot see why such
pains should be taken to oppose the
Episcopal Church I fear that no good
will result from this great ~~and~~
important undertaking. I feel it to be
a duty to enter this on this journal and
bear my testimony against the spirit.
I wish to see every one enjoy the
privilege of worshipping God according
to the dictates of their ~~own~~ ^{own} conscience.
But this spirit and conduct I
must condemn.

Forak ~~June~~ 8. Mon
The Rev. Mr. Johnson from
Rye, N. Y. visited us the other
day. I related to us the circumstances
of his having received several hundred
of the 500 captured Africans that
was brought in the other day week.
He said that as one of the most
respectable neighbors were beheld. Mothers
& children. Fathers and sons. Brothers
and sisters. Meeting and separating

each other, bathed in tears unable
for some moments to express a single
word for joy. He informed us that
700 hundred more were on their way
to Severn Leone which had been just
captured by the English Cruizers. I
feel very desirous to have from the
obligator from Boston which left
here a few weeks ago for a Cruise
she was to return in four weeks
time -

Yesterday the Rev Mr Andrews
preached a profitable sermon in
Mr Bacon's room after which he
proceeded to the administration of the
Lord's Supper it was a comfortable
day and perhaps would have been
more so had not some who called
themselves the ministers of Christ held
us out as an example / as was the case the Sabbath
before / almost 20 yards distance so
that each voice could be distinctly
heard. But God ^{can} bring order
out of confusion and make the
mouth of man to praise Him.

St. Bay Jan 14th 1791

How changeable are all things!
Three months ago I rejoiced at
the arrival of Mr Bacon and his
wife and this day they take their departure
from us to return to America again
by the way of the West Indies and
after a short stay the Lord's Supper
was administered to their native Land

Forak Bay June 15th

Reflections

Dear refuge of my weary soul,
On the white narrow seas,
On the white waves of trouble roll,
My fainting hope relies.
To thee I tell each rising grief
For those whose hearts are heavy,
Thy word can bring a sweet relief
Even my pain I feel
And my weary soul has stilled
Here be the words of comfort
And my heart is glad
And my soul is free.

The Rev Mr. Stokes returned this morning from the schooner and informed me that Mr & Mrs Bacon was ~~much~~ better. In which I feel thank & full.

Torah Bay June 18th am
Yesterday I had considerable of chill attended with a little Delirium and fever. To day feel quite smart my heavenly Father chastises lightly may be ^{sanctify} ~~sanctify~~ it to my good. I desire more & more to see the vanity of the world. And to trust more in God.

H. Bay June 19th we
We have had for the last week but light rains. The night before last we experienced an severe a Tornado as I have witnessed on the coast as to wind & several houses / native built / I am informed were blown down in Tree Town. But no lives lost.

~~and~~ Yesterday I received a note from the Kings Attorney informing me that Mr Koyze intended to prosecute me for not delivering to him certain goods which he said had been sent out to him and ~~these other~~ other stamps from the society. I informed the attorney that I had not received any authority from that society to deliver a single article to Mr K. But that all the

goods left in my charge by Capt. Adams with
I had delivered to the agent of the
society since the arrival of the Nautilus
that Mr. Rezzet was at liberty to use
his pleasure / I now wait the result
Every day brings with it our trials. But
as yet I feel God's grace quite suf-
-ficient for me. Indeed I find great
comfort in my God. When I compare
my trials to his who trod the winepress
alone they seem to swindle into nothing.
What an advantage to us that we
have in Christ a perfect pattern
of suffering & patience.

St. Bay June 29th Friday

This Day the atmosphere is
remarkable clear but the sun
is very warm. A few of our people
are indisposed. None I believe danger-
-ously ill / except Mrs. Carey who came
aboard in the Nautilus and is thought
to be in a decline / As to myself I
have felt much better for a few days
past. I find great advantage in
studying the Scriptures by having the
Rev. Mr. Andrews with me. He lives in
my family house. Mr. B. B. Adams de-
-parted.

St. Bay July 1st Sabbath

I have been employed and com-
-forted much this day while reading
a favourite author on the subject
of death. It is immaterial to us through
what channel God chooses to convey

contribution to our souls. Sometimes he
chooses to do it by Christian's recommendation,
sometimes by the preaching of his words
and at other times by reading religious
Books.

* In conversation with the Governor
of Sierra Leone he informed me that he
had advised Kizzyel not to attempt a
thing of the kind. Since then Kizzyel
I am informed has made much dis-
turbance in the Town. And what a
marry it is that after our minds have
been unavoidably engrossed with the
things of the world, that on the his holy
day we can collect in our minds and
fix them on the concerns of eternity. O
my soul soon, very soon shalt thou
be done with busy life then may it
be my great concern to prepare my
accounts and to be ready to give
my account of my stewardship.

How vain are all things here below
How false and yet how fair.

The Children of God in this
life may and do suffer in many
instances long and severely. They are
exposed to trials persecutions, sickness,
poverty, bereavement of friends
by death, and bodily affliction, and
other calamities, in which they pass
state. How delightful must be
the remembrance to every man
sufferer that these distresses constitute

his probable operation of a cure. And though
things are of course effectually contraindicated
to prevent him from fainting rather
than disheartened & persuaded him to
run with patience the race that
is set before him. let every Christian
thence draw solemnly to the Chair
= rest of his Heavenly Father, and
sustain himself under every trouble
with the full assurance that his
sorrows will soon have passed away
away forever.

St. Bays July 3 Tues

Yesterday and to day the weather
is remarkable fine No rain -

St. Bays July 4 Wed

Heavy rain to day attended
with considerable wind. I feel light
touch of fever / or as we call it African
fever / my mind is much comforted
for several days past in reading the
first book of Kings. I read it as I
can say I have never done before. The
more I read it the more ~~construc~~
ting it seems to be. Truly it is one
the to read the Scriptures, and another
thing to study them. Some men
may value themselves on account of
their speculative knowledge, right
opinions, true and as they say orthodox
faith. But separate from the practice
of virtue and righteousness is sure as
the gospel is true, no blessing whatever
shall find place of any sort to men

And as far as the ministers their
function make the white box
Ordinance to the will of God, and
have been the religion of God. Men
if had they continued innocent / but
now it is the religion of angels
and former will be the religion
of saints in heaven.

French Bay July 6th
This day Mr John Smith from
Philadelphia / a man of colour who
came out in the ship Elizabeth /
departed this life. It was thought
that he died of the consumption.

What empty things are all the things
that this inferior God

There nothing here deserves any joy
There, & nothing like any God

French Bay July 7th

This morning Mrs Carey, from
Richmond / col. / who came out in
the Planters departed this life. She
is said to have been in a deep decline
when she left America. Several
of our emigrants are indisposed.
We have no Physician among us.
Still our situation is much better
than it was this time last year.
We have many comforts that we were
then destitute. The parish agents, the
Rev Mr Bacon, Mr J. P. Bampton
and agents of York and St.
Elizabeth of the Society have
the best of the and better of

The day, the present agents have comparatively pleasant times. What a change in the appearance of things for the better. But it is only God that knows what is yet ahead we may now be considered like a ship in harbour we are now to reside for a while on a large farm about 2 miles from Iketan. But we may expect whoever lives, to put to sea again when the days commence.

But some of us will no doubt be gone to eternity before that time.

The inquiry may with much propriety pass among us "Lord is it I" and "Lord is it I" I think it is ~~far~~ safest to calculate on difficulties, ~~not~~ not distrust, if God is with us all will.

Death cannot make our souls afraid
If God be with us there

We may ~~not~~ walk through the darkest shade
And never yield to fear

Torah Bay July 11 Wm

This day the remainder of the people that came out in the ~~Cl~~^{Cl} arrived from Sherbro in health. There was no resistance made by the natives. To God alone the glory should be given, we have had some very heavy showers of rain for the last three days. To day it is fine weather. Two or three of our people are sick. But on the whole I think we are highly favoured with health. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

The Rev Mr Andrews first agent of the Society is as yet highly favoured as to health, / not a sick day since on the coast. He anticipated an attack every day. We have had no account of the yet from the American Schooner Aligator from Boston which left this about 7 weeks ago on a cruise down the coast / at least no account that we can credit! Sir George Collicie left this port for England about 3 weeks ago his time on this coast as Com having expired. He is ^{to be} however ~~succeeded~~ succeeded by another Com. The British are Zealous in the cause they have brought into this colony (Seigneurie) since the commencement of the war is upwards of 1000 slaves this evening I felt an humble ~~to~~ boldness in coming to a throne of grace at the time of family prayer. It is good to wait on God

Four at Bay July 12th Thursday

This day has been fine
weather

2. Box 14th July Saturday

The rains have been
considerable to day. But no new
cases of fever.

Freeport Bay July 15th Sat

This day another of our few
-ple was numbered with the dead a
boy about 14 years old who came
out in the Borg Nautilus. But
other grain to day is not

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Fort Bay July 19 Thursday

Last evening another of our people left us on a visit to a world of spirits. ~~He~~ He came out in the Nautilus. He was a professor, and I believe a professor of religion. He was about 75 years of age. I regret his loss. He was a man of peace. His name was Joseph Bankford. I fear he has left few sparks among us.

"Let me die the death of the righteous and let my last end be like theirs."

We have had but little rain since Sabbath day. This afternoon the clouds pour out their contents profusely. We still have a few on the rock list. Our hopes of raising good crops are nearly blasted. Perhaps we have not hit the right season in casting our seed. And the insects are said to be worse than common. They are abundant. Those who may live through the rains will learn much experience as to farming.

Fort Bay July 20 Friday

The Rev Mr. Andrews who has been one of my family ever since the return of Mr. Bacon to America. has not experienced a day's sickness to my knowledge since on the coast until to day. He complains of a pain in the head is much inclined to the bed, but has not as yet much fever. He has commenced the use of the fever tea. We have had considerable rain to day.

To Bay July 23. Mon.

Yesterday my soul was comforted in waiting upon God - no rain - and very little to day. Mr Andrews is quite ill. Fever, sickness at the stomach, & violent pain in the head. He has just ordered Dr Wilson Maccauly to attend him.

To Bay July 24. Tues.

Two of our children are quite sick, the doctor attended this morning. The Rev Mr Flood /chaplain of the colony of Sierra Leone/ this afternoon paid Mr Andrews a friendly visit. I am much pleased with Mr Flood I do not think Mr Andrews wise. Much care is necessary however in the first stage of the attack of African fever. Mrs Wiem has been quite poorly for the last two days, we have had some rain attended with thunder this afternoon. The lesson read this evening in family worship, Job 19. and 2 Tim 3. I am not free to omit one thing on this journal the following. Mr Flood made an observation (or quotation) & I felt its importance. Viz. "The Lord doth not afflict willingly." If so said he, it must be for our good that he doth it. In this sentiment, the Rev Mr Flood acquiesced. How very different though, is the meeting of the afflicted Christian & his Brother in Christ and the meeting of the afflicted Infidel, and his Brother in infidelity!

Forah Bay July 25. Wed.

We have had some rain & thunder & lightning to day - The Rev Mr Andrews grows weaker he takes but little nourishment. My youngest child (Samuel) is quite sick, Mrs Andrews thinks him to be troubled with the worms, I have quite a sick family - Praise God is very good,

in that he keeps my dear wife & myself on our feet & enables us to attend on Mr Andrews & the children without the aid of a nurse, and my wife stands it wonderfully. But the glory belongs to God alone. This evening lesson James 14
Toxah Bay July 26. Thurs.

Considerable rain to day - This evening lesson Job 21: 1-10 after which I was comforted in reading the life of Mrs Penn. Vol 2. page 273. Phil. Ed by Bradford. This work was sent out to me by my dear friend Philip E. Thomas of Baltimore in the Ring Nautilus, by the hands of Mr E. Broad.

Toxah Bay July 27. Friday

Considerable rain last night - a letter to day Mr Andrews no better than I can perceive. The Dr has applied a blister to the pit of his stomach. My child Samuel, very poorly. but God is very good.

Toxah Bay July 28. Sat.

Little did I think last evening that I should have to enter on this journal to record the death of my dear friend the Rev Mr Andrews. I am early home this morning by his request, I wrote a note to the Dr informing him that he was better, & for the Dr not to call until to morrow. I did so - The Dr sent some medicine directing that when his fever went off, to commence giving it to him. He read the directions - and conversed freely, talked with my wife while she was dressing his chest, but seemed however much engaged in Prayer, she had not left the room, but a few minutes before I heard as I thought an uncommon breathing, I rushed with my wife to his bed side, but found

him speechless and in the arms of death. He
soon breathed his last without speaking
again / I think in a fit / I have not a
doubt on my mind. But he is now
in habitation & bosom - For the last nine
weeks he has made one of my family.
I believe that he was a man of vital
piety and Godliness. He loved his ~~little~~
~~little~~ Bible and during the last four weeks
read much in it with the appearance
of deep attention. He scarcely let a day
pass without speaking of our removal
to the Bapa. His heart seemed in the
work. But observed to me several times
since the departure of M C Bacon,
That he ~~intended to~~ ~~and~~ ~~his~~ ~~days~~ should
reign his agency and become a Mis-
sionary that he intended to end his
days in Africa. But alas he is gone
and for aught I know while I enter
this on my journal his spirit may
be a witness to the same. Yea while
his cold clayey tenement lays inactive
at my right hand while writing these
lines. His spirit I believe enjoys the
Beatific vision. He expired about two
o'clock this afternoon. This dispensation
seems to shed a veil or gloom over our
prospects. But this we know that God
~~shall~~ ~~done~~ all things right, our duty
is to submit, may this sudden death
be sanctified to my good. He was
taken sick this day week.

At about 10 o'clock on July 24th Sat.
This day we conveyed the remains of the

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Rev Mr Anders to the Grave he was entered
very decently in the burying Ground in
Free Town Sierra Leone. The Rev Mr Flood
/ Chaplain of the Col / officiated.

Freetown Bay July 31 Fri

Sabbath day yesterday and to day
have been trying days to me. But in
God I still put my trust. And I am
at this moment confident that had I not
put my trust in him I should under
my late trials have faultered in my mind
and given up. O my dear Lord never
leave me. But sanctify these trials
to the good of my poor soul. Thou
knowest the deep waters through which
I wade. I desire at this moment to
lift my heart to thee in thanksgiving
for consolation I feel in my soul.
It is all of grace. Do thou O Lord
humble me by these trials and pre-
pare me for new ones. It is safe
to calculate on every day, bringing
with it new trials. But if we
only keep in the Ark there is safety.

Freetown Bay Aug 2 Thurs

But little rain to day or
Yesterday. None of our people dangerous
my child Samuel Better, How good
God is.

Freetown Bay Aug 4 Sat

An abundance of rain to day and
change for the worse in the health
of our ^{people}. When all the mercy of my God
my rising soul surveys
Why my cold heart art Thou not loth

In wonder love and praise
 Through hidden dangers looms and darks
 He gently clears my way
 And through the pleasing snare of vice
 Shows to be feared than they.

Some time since Mr E
 Bacon and his wife & friend A Peck
 left this for America / 7 weeks ago / The
 late Rev Mr Andrews in conversation with me
 advised that his good Bishop / Greenwell used
 to read in family a portion of scripture
 as laid down in the prayer book. It
 was impressed on my mind, that the
 practice was a good one, and I
 took it up immediately, and now
 read in my family night & morn-
 -ing two chapters, one in the old
 and one in the new Test
 one of my family having ^{a little} in their
 hand at the same time looking
 over while I read. I can praise God that
 he has it in to my mind to adapt
 this practice. For the last few weeks
 have been a time of rare trial to
 me and the lessons have for
 some time been mostly in the
 week of Luke of the ~~Albans~~ Passings
 that well suited to my case. I
 do believe that God has in hand a
 leading me to take up the scripture
 lesson, as laid down in the prayer
 book & so ways are mysterious.

Dear Bay my & Mr
 This morning Mr Whiford a valiant
 friend from Phil arrived by the way of England

The states that business in the United States was dull. And that the prospects of the people of colour were growing more and more gloomy, that they were in suspense as to what was best for them to do. That some had already migrated to the Congo.

This day I delivered letters for to be forwarded on to America by the way of England to inform the Board of Managers of the death of their first agent the Rev Mr Hudson.

Torah Bay Aug 13th Thurs

All my children sick. The rest of the people getting better. I have I think begin to state for several days past. We have been much annoyed by the Drowies. They are and that sometimes drive people out of their houses. They are different from those in America. When they enter into our houses we have to close out for perhaps half an hour, during which time they destroy rats, scorpions, snakes, cock roaches, and all kinds of reptiles, so that although a visit from a procession of these animals are troublesome. Yet I think these visit very usefull, and conducive of health.

Torah Bay Aug 14th Friday

All my children continue sick. My oldest son Daniel is very sick / fever / (lost much rain this week. Mr Swinn is confined to his room his to day. The young prince brought from Bapa / Son of King

Ben and placed at Regent's Tower by the
Rev Mr Adams, to attend school, until
our people should remove to the Cape
des on last Sabbath Day. I much regret
his death. But God's will must be
submitted to. His designs towards us, is
still very mysterious and should we not
be able to comprehend it for now or
even in eternity, still it is certain he
does all things right. Under the influence
of this belief I can say with one of
old "Though he slay me yet will
I trust in him" Job 13:15

Torah Bay Aug 20 Mon
Mr & Mrs Mann both sick. Mr
Mann Daniel quite poorly. Dr
Showers of Sierra Leone called in to
see him, as he attends Mr Mann the rains
for the last two days quite moderate.
Our people generally recovering, but
little said among us about removing
to Cayo. No account from the
Alligator. Some ~~think~~ think she has
returned to America. Others think
she has engaged some large slave
and have been taken. But all
this is conjecture, and may or may
not be true. But my present
opinion is that nothing of very great
importance will be done until
we hear from America.

Torah Bay Aug 21 Tues
Considerable rain to day. Dr Showers
spent considerable time with us today, but
both Mr & Mrs Mann better. As an Daniel no better

01
I had much very agreeable conversation
with the Dr. relative to the King of the
Tobanties. His statement relative to the
power of this King is corroborated by Sir
George Collier, and Mr. Robinson.
John Robinson's Book contains much
information on this important subject.
Judah this King is ~~considered~~ Africa
what Bonaparte was in Europe.
He is the terror of the nations around
him. This consideration was the last
one - one of the objections to our
settlements being first at Alm.
Judah August 22nd here

The Dr. thinks Mrs. W. is better
but she is no better. It is a serious
time. I have something like an attack
of the Asthenia. This evening I was
much comforted in reading Psalm 84.
I would recommend Christians in
the most trying situations they may
be placed to read much of the
Book of Psalms and little else to
day.

Judah Big Aug 24th here
This is a time to exercise our faith
and hope. The Wind is now thought
to be dangerous. Things grow darker
around us. My children are rather
better.

God of my life who's gracious power
through various deaths by evil path led
As turned aside the fatal power
As lifted up my sinking head
In all my ways Thy hand I own.

32
Thy ruling Providence will
Direct me with my course to run
And shall direct my path to thee
Oft from the margin of the grave
Thou hast kept lifted up my head;
Sudden I found thee near to save;
The fever owned thy touch & fled.

Barth. Bray Aug 25th Mon.

The 2nd & 3rd Mr. Wain worse to
day. Did not leave his room
He was supposed to be at school. I went into his
room (or rather to the door as there were many
persons in the room) and found he was not down.
But I thought he was dying. About 12 o'clock he
breathed his last. He had been much troubled with
the sickness for three days. Mrs. Wain is quite poorly.
May the Lord help us.

F. B. Aug 26th Sat.

This day we entered the body of Mr. Wain in the burial ground
in Deddington by the side of Mr. Andrews.

Barth. Bray Aug 27th Mon.

Mrs. Wain continues poorly. She is attended by Dr
~~Dr.~~ Snowers who attended her husband.

The following Extract is from the
Sierra Leone paper.

Aug 18. We have had several fine days
last week, the heaviest showers of rain have
fallen in the night, and there has been
thunder occasionally with some little
lightning which leads to a supposition of
a short continuance of this season
of rain. The rains began earlier than
usual and an ^{enormous} quantity has already
fallen. The sickness that have prevailed
has been much less than might have been expected.

30
if any credit is to be given to the common
~~of~~ observation of the old inhabitants
of the colony. That the greatest
sickness is all over in those years
in which the largest quantity of
rain falls. But although there
has been a good deal of sickness
this season the character of the in-
-fernal fever has been mild and
fatal in the generality of new
cases and as the season seems
to be fast approaching towards its con-
-clusion there is every probability that
this to much dreaded surge will
entirely disappear by change of character.

The faculty consider the dense
vegetation in the street and the thick
and overgrown jungle which surround
the city particularly in the eastern
half of the town as not only a fruitful
source of the fever which annually
appears but the main cause of its long
continuance and severity. There are
public nuisances which if not removed
before the power of the sun checks
the growth of vegetation few indeed in
this colony (Sierra Leone) might expect
to escape the ague and the malarial
fever during the ~~dry~~ dry season.

Forak Bay Aug 28th Mon.

Mrs. Miner continues very poorly con-
-fined of much weakness and but
little pain. My children recover very
slowly. But I feel very thankful
that we are so much favoured. My

wife have not yet been attacked. She
 is the third person of the last expedi-
 -tion that have escaped so far being
 sick. I expect it however daily. We
 have had some rain today. & that
 God would give me grace for
 future trials, his promises are all
 sure, and he hath said my grace
 is sufficient for you, & blessed
 promise.

Forrah Bay Aug. 29th 1791.

This day have been a day of trials.
 I found much comfort this evening
 in reading at the time of family duty.
 Pro. 24. 10. The teeth were made a
 deep impression on my mind. M^{rs}
 Winn is thought to be very poorly &
 feel slight fever. But little rain
 today. & what should we do with-
 -out a God. Without a Christ, with-
 -out the spirit, without the Bible?

Teach us the happy art
 In all things to depend,
 On thee, O never Lord depart.
 But love me to the end.

Forrah Bay Aug 30th 1791.
 M^{rs} Winn, continues very poorly.
 Should I be asked in this trying time
 what think you now of Africa? I could
 in truth answer that I know that God
 is in Africa, and to them that believe
 he is precious, and I feel at this moment
 a heart to praise him in Africa, as
 to what we meet with here, sickness,
 death, and disappointment, this is not

confined to Africa.

Forak Bay Aug 31 Thu

This morning about 11 o'clock Mr
Whinn departed this life. It is a solemn
time with us, when I was about to
attend to family duty this evening, I
paused for a moment it seemed to me
to read the last ch of Ecclesi with
the last recollection of its contents I
found it very appropriate, and un-
= full. My son Daniel is very poorly,
I fear he has drank cold water after
taking medicine, unknown to me.

8 Bay Sep 1 Sat

About two this morning sleep
departed from me, It came into
my mind to open my Bible for it
was lying on the table I did so and
opened in Psalm 146. I was so much
pleased with it that I took up my
pen and copied it.

"Praise ye the Lord, Praise
the Lord. O my soul, while I live
will I praise the Lord: I will sing
praises unto my God while I have a being.
But put not your trust in Princes,
nor in the son of man, in
whom there is no help. His breath
goeth forth, he returneth to his
earth: in that very day his thoughts
perish. Happy is he that hath the
Lord God of Jacob for his
help, whose hope is in the Lord
his God. Which made heaven and
earth, the sea and all that therein

is, which keepeth truth for ever, which ex-
 -cusseth judgment for the oppressed, which
 giveth food to the hungry, the Lord loveth
 the prisoners; The Lord openeth the eyes
 of the blind, the Lord raiseth up them
 that are low; The Lord loveth the
 righteous; The Lord preserveth the stran-
 -gers; He releaseth the fatherless and wid-
 -ows; But the way of the wicked
 he turneth up side down. The Lord
 shall reign for ever, even Thy God
 O Zion, unto all generations, Praise
 ye the Lord. 1)

about 11 o'clock the remains
 of Ann Smith was entered in the
 Burying Ground in Free Town -

My oldest son was too poorly
 for to admit of any going to the
 grave, how pleasing the thought
 that some this dear spirit may have
 joined the Chorus of the upper
 Sings.

Torrah Bay Sep 8. Sat
 A heavy shower of rain
 and distant thunder. Two a
 three among us indisposed. My
 oldest son is so far restored to
 his speech as to be understood
 some words. For the last two days
 he had to write on the slate what
 he wished to say. My wife is quite
 smart as as to be able to attend
 to her domestic concerns. How good
 the Lord is to us worthy me. Had I
 as many tongues as I have hairs upon

my head. They might be all justly
employed in praising his adorable name.
It is a matter of small moment as to
the difficulties we pass through if we
are only favoured with grace to support
or comfort us under them. — Having desirous
to be comforted by reading the Bible I
often feel enabled to raise my heart
to God in prayer when I am about to
open this blessed volume. At family duty
this evening I opened in 2 cor 6 and found
it very comforting. Surely the word
of God is an invaluable treasure to
his people. It is a question of some
importance

What is the Balm of Gilead,
and the Physician spoken of in Jer
8. 22? I know not but I should be
as safe in understanding the Balm to
mean the Bible, as the very Learned
and ingenious South is in understanding
the Physician to mean the Prophet / See
South on the Place in Scott

Torror Bay Sep 3 Mon
This evening I thought much
about my dear American Friends, both
white & coloured. The Lord grant
that we may meet in Heaven, if
no more on earth. There is but
little ground to hope for the latter
though all things are possible with
God — Pickens with us seems to be
at a stand, no new cases and but
little news to day. But the state of the
air seems to be unhealthy being very damp

Good Bishop Kemp's parting hymn
sung in Bethel Church at the time of
our parting came fresh to my mind this
evening! Although they through foreign lands
do roam

And breathe the tainted air
In burning climates far from home
Yet there a God art there.

Torah Bay Sep 4 Tues

The health of the people about
the same. We had a heavy shower
of rain all day light this morning.
It is thought to be a sign of the
breaking up of the rains when the
rains fall mostly in the night. I begin
to feel an increasing desire to hear from
America. I cannot bring my mind to
any satisfactory conclusion as to the
future operations that will take place
among us previous to our leaving
from home. May the Lord direct
us - I had a very singular
dream last evening. And although I
pay but little attention to dreams
yet such was the deep impression made
by this dream on my mind that I enter
it on my journal. And I shall note
the subsequent occurrences to see
the interpretation true or not.

Torah Bay Sep 9 Sat

While reading Psalm 72 in family
duties I was brought to pause at the
8, 9, 10, 11, verses. Good Joseph Benson
in his note on verse tenth ^{maketh} ~~maketh~~ the

following observations

"Two countries of Arabia, unfulfilled
the one is a part of Arabia and the
other of Ethiopia beyond Egypt [yea
all nations shall serve him] This cannot
be affirmed with any shadow of truth
of Calam but was a will be
unquestionably vanquished in Christ, who
is and will show himself to be King
of Kings and Lord of Lords, and will
be universally acknowledge, obeyed, and
worshipped by all the Kings and nations
of the earth!! Benson in loc. motto
subtile divine says: It is almost to
interpret this of the faced submission,
which even the wicked will make
to Christ in the day of judgment
how how will they serve him by going
away into everlasting fire prepared for
the Devil and his angels!! No Doubt the
Orbicular is here foretold Scott in loc.
It appears that Dr Scott complains of
Prof Hearn's note on the M verse. I think
that Benson, and Scott have hit the
meaning. If so how very discouraging
to Missionary exertions, how discour-
aging to the American Col Society
at this gloomy and trying time.

Nations, the learned and the rude
the by these Heavenly Annes subdued,
While Satan rages at his loss,
And hakes the doctrine of the Cross.

Thomas Harris of Baltimore and
two children are very sick. When I
visited him this morning he had a high

41

fever, and violent pains in the head.
Forrah Bay Sep 10 Mon
About 12 o'clock it rained almost a
torrent

Forrah Bay Sep 14 Wed
Several rains during the last
5 days, but mostly scarce in the day & in
the night. Harris continues with
fever. One of the British surgeons have
just brought in another cargo of
slaves. Oh when will this evil be
abolished!

Forrah Bay Sep 17 Mon
My children all recovering.
a great quantity of rain has fell
during the last few days - This afternoon
a tornado attended with rain, wind,
lightning, and thunder - We are
now becoming very anxious to hear from
home

Forrah Bay Sep 20 Thur
Much rain has fell to day
heavy thunder, some very severe claps
(or explosions) No sun to be seen
the last two days

Forrah Bay Sep 21 Fri
My mind has been much
turned towards home in respect to the
operations that may ~~be~~ ^{be} going on
by Gov^r or the Society

What will Gov^r think when they
hear of the death of their first agent?

I suppose Mr Bacon died on his
passage home having left her very well.

What will the Society think of the death

of their first agent the Rev Mr. Thomas;
 (41) What will the King of Bapa think of
 the death of his Son;

Perhaps there is some similarity
 between the feeling of David Psalm 42
 and mine, I read this Psalm to day and
 strive to ~~draw~~ ^{Comfort} draw ~~from~~ from
 the 5 verse Suppose one trouble follow
 hard after another yet days says Ps
 138: "as a sovereign cordial for
 Melancholy preserves faith. ~~of~~ ^{the} God-
 mee"